DT01 Rec'd PCT/PTT 2 0 DEC 2004

PATENT 1501-1284

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Peter PARNES

Conf.

Application No. **NEW NATIONAL PHASE**

Group

Filed December 20, 2004

Examiner

APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR CONVEYING PRIVATE INFORMATION WITHIN A GROUP COMMUNICATION SYSTEM

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

December 20, 2004

Sir:

The following preliminary amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begin on page 6 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 9 of this paper.

An $\mbox{\bf Appendix}$ is attached following the signature page of this paper.